Year	No. of cases reported
2003	1043
2004	1378
2005	2917

(b) to (d) The proposal to amend the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986 on the basis of recommendations made by the National Commission for Women (NCW) is under the consideration of the Ministry of Women and Child Development. The proposal includes amendments in the definition of the terms 'indecent representation of women' and 'advertisement' and to increase the penalty for offences under the Act.

(e) Section 3 of the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986 prohibits advertisements containing indecent representation of women. In terms of Section 6 of the Act, contravention of the provisions of section 3 of the Act shall be punishable with imprisonment and fine: Section 5 of the Act empowers State Governments to authorize Gazetted Officers, *inter-alia*, to carry out search and seize documents containing indecent representation of women.

'Public order' and 'police' are State subjects and as such prevention, detection and investigation etc. of cases relating to atrocities against women, including violation of the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition)' Act, 1986, is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The Government of India has been advising the State Governments from time to time to take necessary measures to prevent crimes against women and other weaker sections of the society.

Government employee status to anganwadi workers

881. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that anganwadi workers are demanding that they may be treated as Government employees and granted pay and allowances and other benefits accordingly; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Anganwadi Workers have been demanding, *inter-alia*, the status of Government employees with consequential benefits. Other demands of Anganwadi Workers include enhancement of honorarium, linkage of remuneration with Consumer Price Index, Lump Sum ex-gratia benefit on retirement and extension of Social Security benefits like Provident Funds, Pension etc.,

With a view to consider their demands, Government of India constituted a Review Committee for examining current levels of honorarium and related issues of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers. The Report of the Review Committee is under consideration of the Government.